



# News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor

Michael S. Steele  
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## **CRIME VICTIMS TO TAKE SPECIAL PRISON TOUR ON FRIDAY, APRIL 28**

### ***Event is part of National Victims' Rights Week***

TOWSON, MD (April 5, 2006)--- Demonstrating another effort to reach out and offer compassionate treatment and important information for crime victims, the Maryland Division of Correction will offer a special prison tour for victims and victim advocates on Friday, April 28 at 9 a.m.

This year's tour, the sixth annual, will be at the Maryland Reception, Diagnostic and Classification Center at Greenmount and Madison in Baltimore. This is the main intake prison for the Maryland Division of Correction, the place where all male inmates who have just been sentenced enter the system and are held until they are sent to confinement in other state prisons. More than 20 victims and victim service providers will be able to see firsthand the living conditions, daily routines, and obligations faced by inmates.

Past tours have resulted in some healing for crime victims, in that they can see inmates are not "coddled" or "treated to a life of luxury." The tours are a reminder that victim services are a priority at every level of the DPSCS system. "I think it's important to do this for the victims because for so many years, they were the forgotten piece of the criminal justice system," says DPSCS Secretary Mary Ann Saar. "Actually, they need to be the centerpiece."

This year's tour comes during a week filled with activities across Maryland which include a victims' services open house, memorial services, and fundraisers for victims' rights causes.

**WHAT:**        Prison tour for victims and victim advocates  
**WHEN:**      Friday, April 28 at 9 a.m.  
**WHERE:**     Maryland Reception, Diagnostic and Classification Center,  
                 at the corner of Greenmount Avenue and Madison Street in  
                 Baltimore

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